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contract there can be no recovery on the *quantum meruit*. *C. & M. E. R. Co. v. Judge*, 135 Ill. App. 377.

WITNESSES — IMPEACHMENT — EVIDENCE OF BAD CHARACTER OF DEFENDANT IN CRIMINAL CASE. — The defendant in a criminal case testified as to his actions on the day of the crime. The prosecution was then allowed to introduce evidence of the defendant's general bad character. *Held*, that the admission of the evidence is error. *People v. Hinksman*, 85 N. E. 676 (N. Y.).

Evidence of a prisoner's bad character cannot be introduced as tending to show his guilt unless the defense puts character in issue. *State v. Lapage*, 57 N. H. 245. Whether a witness may be impeached by testimony to his bad reputation is a question on which there is an irreconcilable conflict of authority. See *Merriman v. State*, 3 Lea (Tenn.) 393; *Carter v. Cavenaugh*, 1 Greene (Ia.) 171. New York allows such impeachment in the case of ordinary witnesses. *Carlson v. Winterson*, 147 N. Y. 652. It is submitted that on both principle and authority the court should not exclude evidence against a defendant witness which it would admit to impeach an ordinary one. *Lockard v. Commonwealth*, 87 Ky. 201. It is true that evidence of bad character may weigh with the jury in the determination of the prisoner's guilt. But so, in the case of a defendant charged with some form of dishonesty, may evidence of untruthfulness; and the admissibility of such evidence the court concedes. See *State v. Beal*, 68 Ind. 345. The danger should be averted, not by exclusion of the evidence, but by instructions as to its proper function, for it is fundamental that evidence admissible for one purpose is not to be rejected because it may be perverted to another. *State v. Farmer*, 84 Me. 436.

BOOKS AND PERIODICALS.

I. LEADING LEGAL ARTICLES.

AMENDMENTS IN HOUSE OF COMMONS PROCEDURE SINCE 1881. *Edward Porritt*. The aims and tendencies of the newer Standing Orders. 2 Am. Pol. Sci. Rev. 515.

ARISTOTLE ON LEGAL REDRESS. *Paul Vinogradoff*. 8 Colum. L. Rev. 548.

DEDICATION AND VACATION OF STREETS AND HIGHWAYS IN ILLINOIS. *Otto G. Ryden*. An essay on the requirements of dedication. 3 Ill. L. Rev. 218.

DOMICILE IN COUNTRIES GRANTING EXTRATERRITORIAL PRIVILEGES TO FOREIGNERS. *Charles Henry Huberich*. 24 L. Quar. Rev. 440.

FEDERAL CONSTITUTION AND THE DEFECTS OF THE CONFEDERATION, THE. *Max Farrand*. Showing that while the Constitution is free from many of the defects of the articles of confederation, there are certain inherent defects in the Constitution. 2 Am. Pol. Sci. Rev. 532.

HISTORY OF CONTRABAND OF WAR. II. *H. J. Randall*. 24 L. Quar. Rev. 449.

HISTORY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, THE. II. *Gaillard Hunt*. The Creation of the Department of State. 2 Am. J. of Int. L. 591.

INCONSISTENCIES OF THE DOCTRINE OF EQUITABLE CONVERSION, THE. *Walter G. Hart*. 24 L. Quar. Rev. 403.

INEQUALITIES IN THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE. *William H. Taft*. 31 N. J. L. J. 269.

INTERESTS FOR LIFE AND QUASI-REMAINDERS IN CHATTELS PERSONAL. *David T. Oliver*. Maintaining that there may be quasi-remainders in chattels personal. 24 L. Quar. Rev. 431.

INTERNATIONAL LAW ASSOCIATION MEETING AT PESTH, THE. *T. Bay*. Discussing the results of the meeting, particularly the recommendation for an international bills of exchange act. 16 Scots L. T. 104.

JUDGMENT ABSOLUTE ON REVERSAL. *George I. Wooley*. Pointing out the importance of an appellate court's power to give such judgment in certain cases. 15 Bench and Bar 18.

LAND TRANSFER REFORM. *J. S. Rubinstein*. Arguing that a registry of deeds is needed in England. 43 L. J. 608.

LAW OF STOLEN LETTERS, THE. *Anon.* 15 Bench and Bar 1.

LIABILITY OF RAILROAD COMPANIES FOR NEGLIGENTLY CAUSED FIRES. *Anon.* An exhaustive discussion of the question, supported by numerous citations and including an extended discussion of proximate cause. 13 *Dick. L. Rev.* 33.

MARITIME SALVAGE AND CHARTERED FREIGHT. *M. A. Rundell.* A clear outline of the law on the subject. 24 *L. Quar. Rev.* 385.

RATE REGULATION AS AFFECTED BY THE DISTRIBUTION OF GOVERNMENTAL POWERS IN THE CONSTITUTIONS. *Robert P. Reeder.* Contending that the grant of powers to the Interstate Commerce Commission is unconstitutional. 57 *U. P. L. Rev.* 59.

REASON AND CONSCIENCE IN SIXTEENTH-CENTURY JURISPRUDENCE. *Paul Vinogradoff.* Discussing the influence of the Canon Law, the importance of "Doctor and Student," and tracing the growth of equity. 24 *L. Quar. Rev.* 373.

REGULATION OF RATES TO BE CHARGED BY PUBLIC SERVICE CORPORATIONS.—I. Miscellaneous Enterprises affected with a Public Interest. II. Railroad Companies. *O. H. Myrick.* A summary of the decisions on the questions involved. 67 *Cent. L. J.* 299, 317.

REVOCATION OF TREATY PRIVILEGES TO ALIEN-SUBJECTS, THE. *Thomas Hodgkins.* Showing the peculiar situation as to treaties as regards United States rights in Canadian fisheries. 44 *Can. L. J.* 633.

SHERMAN ANTI-TRUST LAW AND THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT THERETO. *Charles E. Littlefield.* 40 *Chi. Leg. N.* 373.

SOME ASPECTS OF THE LAW OF FOREIGN JUDGMENTS, WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO DEFAULT JUDGMENTS OF ENGLISH AND COLONIAL COURTS INTER SE. *C. C. McCaul.* 24 *L. Quar. Rev.* 412.

SUPREME COURT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE ENFORCEMENT OF STATE LAW BY STATE COURTS, THE. *Henry Schofield.* Arguing that by the Fourteenth Amendment the Supreme Court of the United States has power to review the decisions of state courts on state laws. 3 *Ill. L. Rev.* 195.

THEORY OF A PLEADING, THE. *Clarke Butler Whittier.* Showing that a complaint must proceed on a definite theory. 8 *Colum. L. Rev.* 523.

TWO PROBLEMS IN LEGAL HISTORY. *W. C. Bolland.* Showing when courts recognized qualifications of barristers to appear before them, and origin of the name barrister. 24 *L. Quar. Rev.* 392.

II. BOOK REVIEWS.

THE VICTORIAN CHANCELLORS. By J. B. Atlay. In two volumes. Vol. II. London: Smith Ellis and Company; Boston: Little, Brown and Company; 1908. pp. xi, 476. 8vo.

The second volume of "The Victorian Chancellors" more than fulfils the promise of the first. See 20 *HARV. L. REV.* 249. Though perhaps none of the Chancellors whose biographies form the second volume—St. Leonards, Cranworth, Chelmsford, Campbell, Westbury, Cairns, Hatherley, Selborne, Halsbury, and Herschell,—with the possible exceptions of Campbell and Westbury, are as vital human figures as Lyndhurst and Brougham, the interest never for a moment flags. Mr. Atlay possesses what are not always gifts of biographers—a sense of proportion, discrimination, appreciation, and good English style. When to these are added industry, careful research, interest and sympathy, the result is a book that will justly take a high rank among legal biographies.

Mr. Atlay has used, and acknowledges the use of, all the biographies that have been published of the several chancellors. In addition he had access to the correspondence of St. Leonards, and a manuscript autobiography of Chelmsford.

After reading Mr. Atlay's biographies one feels almost a personal acquaintance with the holders of the Great Seal. The erudition of St. Leonards, the good sense and gentle character of Cranworth, the brilliant advocacy and attractive personality of Chelmsford, the power and assertiveness of Campbell, the learning, brilliancy, and instability of Westbury, the political ability and high legal attainments of Cairns, the painstaking care and loyal service of Hatherley, the political and moral integrity and strength of Selborne, all stand forth clearly.

All men of distinction are the subjects or authors of countless anecdotes and